

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FOR:

February 23, 1998

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LAST WEEK:

PRESIDENTS' DAY CONGRESSIONAL RECESS - Members of Congress were in their home districts for the Monday holiday and the remainder of the week.

ABANDONED MINE LAND RECLAMATION BRIEFING - Members of the National Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation, representatives of NRCS and the Department of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining (OSM) discussed programmatic efforts underway which address the potential problems arising from past coal mining practices. Staff from 25 congressional delegates attended the informational briefing.

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THIS WEEK:

CLEAN WATER ACTION PLAN BRIEFINGS - As a part of the President's rollout of the Clean Water Action Plan in Baltimore on February 19, the following Congressional briefings have been scheduled:

SENATE

Feb. 25 10:00 a.m. 406 Dirksen

HOUSE

Feb. 27 2:00 p.m. 2167 Rayburn

SENATE FY99 APPROPRIATIONS - The Agriculture, Rural Development and Related Agencies Subcommittee (Chairman Thad Cochran, R-MS) of the Senate Appropriations Committee will hold hearings on appropriations for FY99.

Feb. 26 10:00 a.m. 138 Dirksen Bldg.
Under Secretary for NRE, James R. Lyons and
NRCS Acting Chief, Thomas A. Weber

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LOOKING AHEAD:

HOUSE FY99 APPROPRIATIONS - The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Subcommittee (Chairman Joe Skeen, R-NM) of the House Appropriations Committee will hold hearings on appropriations for FY99.

March 17 1:00 p.m. 2362-A Rayburn Bldg.
Under Secretary for NRE, James R. Lyons and
NRCS Chief, Pearlie S. Reed

EQIP HEARING - The House Agriculture Subcommittee on Forestry, Resource Conservation, and Research (Chairman Larry Combest R-TX) has scheduled an oversight hearing on the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

March 5 9:30 a.m. 1300 Longworth

HEARING ON GLOBAL WARMING TREATY - The Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee (Chairman Richard Lugar, R-IN) has scheduled a hearing on the Kyoto Global Warming Pact that would require a reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse" gases that are believed to cause global warming.

March 5 9:00 a.m. 328-A Russell Bldg.

HOUSE SCHEDULES INTERIOR FY99 APPROPRIATIONS HEARINGS - The Interior Subcommittee (Chairman Regula, R-Ohio) of the House Appropriations Committee will hold hearings on FY99 appropriations for programs under its jurisdiction. Hearings of potential interest to NRCS include:

March 5 Public witnesses for natural resources programs
March 10 Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior
March 19 Dan Glickman, Secretary of Agriculture
April 1 Members of Congress

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